

North Dakota

# FARM REPORTER

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## IN THIS ISSUE

**Crop Production**

**Milk Production**

**U.S. Dairy Herd Structure**

**Wheat Outlook**

## CROP PRODUCTION

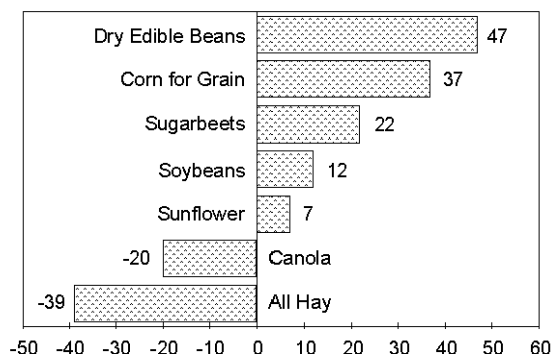
**N**orth Dakota  
The first **all sunflower** production forecast for 2002 is set at 1.58 billion pounds, up 7 percent from last year's revised production of 1.47 billion pounds but 9 percent below two years ago. The average yield for all sunflower is forecast at 1,250 pounds per

harvested acre, down from the 1,403 pounds last year and 1,374 pounds two years ago.

**Canola** production forecast is set at 1.44 billion pounds, down 20 percent from last year's record high production. Average yield is forecast at 1,150 pounds per acre, down from last year and the lowest on record since estimates were started in 1991. Acres for harvest, at 1.25 million, were down 3 percent from last year's record high.

**Dry edible bean** production is forecast at 9.10 million hundred-weight (cwt), down 3 percent from the August forecast but 47 percent above last year. If realized, this would be the second highest production since the record high 9.80 million cwt

**2002 Production Forecast  
Percent Change from 2001  
North Dakota, October 1, 2002**



was harvested from the 1998 crop. Yield is estimated at 1,400 pounds per acre, down from 1,450 pounds in August and down from the record tying high yield of 1,550 pounds in 2001.

**CROP SUMMARY: AREA PLANTED AND HARVESTED  
NORTH DAKOTA AND UNITED STATES, 2001 AND FORECASTED OCTOBER 1, 2002 <sup>1/</sup>**

Crop	North Dakota				United States			
	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	1,000 Acres		1,000 Acres		1,000 Acres		1,000 Acres	
Barley	1,500	1,600	1,450	1,240	4,967	5,073	4,289	4,135
Corn for Grain <sup>2/</sup>	880	1,200	705	1,030	75,752	78,847	68,808	70,541
Corn for Silage			155				6,148	
Hay, All			2,700	2,650			63,511	64,709
Alfalfa			1,600	1,450			23,812	24,134
All Other			1,100	1,200			39,699	40,575
Oats	575	670	240	290	4,403	5,005	1,905	2,098
Rye	13	10	10	9	1,328	1,395	255	286
Wheat, All	9,450	9,080	9,080	8,070	59,597	60,358	48,633	46,022
Winter	150	80	80	70	41,078	41,735	31,295	29,651
Durum	2,200	2,100	2,100	2,000	2,910	2,909	2,789	2,758
Other Spring	7,100	6,900	6,900	6,000	15,609	15,714	14,549	13,613
Canola	1,300	1,350	1,285	1,250	1,494	1,513	1,455	1,378
Flaxseed	550	800	545	780	585	844	578	821
Mustard Seed					45.8	155.0	44.2	146.0
Rapeseed					3.7	2.0	3.1	1.8
Safflower					188	207	177	198
Soybeans	2,150	2,450	2,110	2,400	74,075	73,043	72,975	71,799
Sunflower, All	1,070	1,300	1,050	1,260	2,633	2,486	2,555	2,320
Oil	850	1,100	835	1,070	2,117	2,095	2,060	1,965
Non-oil	220	200	215	190	516	391	495	355
Sugarbeets	261	287	237	284	1,370.8	1,408.8	1,243.6	1,370.8
Dry Edible Beans, All	440.0	750.0	400.0	650.0	1,429.9	1,874.3	1,243.0	1,690.6
Dry Edible Peas	90	130	86	125	211.8	271.5	196.8	263.5
Lentils	45	50	44	49	201.0	190.0	197.0	187.0
Fall Potatoes, All	118.0	120.0	110.0	112.0	1,091.5	1,169.8	1,073.2	1,142.1

<sup>1/</sup> Data are latest estimates available. Data not shown will be released at a later date. <sup>2/</sup> Area planted for all purposes.

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## CROP PRODUCTION (Continued)

### United States

**Corn** production is forecast at 8.97 billion bushels, up 1 percent from September but down 6 percent from 2001. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average 127.2 bushels per acre, up 1.8 bushels from September but down 11.0 bushels from last year. If realized, production would be at the lowest level since 1995.

**Soybean** production is forecast at 2.65 billion bushels, virtually unchanged from September but 8 percent below 2001. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 37.0 bushels per acre, unchanged from last month. If realized, this would be the lowest production since 1999. Acreage for harvest is forecast at 71.8 million acres, unchanged from September and 2 percent below last year.

### CROP SUMMARY: YIELD AND PRODUCTION NORTH DAKOTA AND UNITED STATES, 2001 AND FORECASTED OCTOBER 1, 2002 <sup>1/</sup>

Crop	Unit	North Dakota					United States				
		Yield			Production		Yield			Production	
		2001	2002		2001	2002	2001	2002		2001	2002
			Sep 1	Oct 1				Sep 1	Oct 1		
		--- 1,000 ---					--- 1,000 ---				
Barley <sup>2/</sup>	Bu	55.0		46.0	79,750	57,040	58.2		54.9	249,420	226,873
Corn for Grain	Bu	115.0	110.0	108.0	81,075	111,240	138.2	125.4	127.2	9,506,840	8,969,836
Corn for Silage	Tons	11.0			1,705		16.6			102,352	
Hay, All <sup>3/</sup>	Tons	1.88	1.05	1.16	5,065	3,085	2.47	2.36	2.32	156,703	150,447
Alfalfa <sup>3/</sup>	Tons	2.10	1.10	1.30	3,360	1,885	3.37	3.09	3.09	80,266	74,655
All Other <sup>3/</sup>	Tons	1.55	1.00	1.00	1,705	1,200	1.93	1.92	1.87	76,437	75,792
Oats <sup>2/</sup>	Bu	62.0		44.0	14,880	12,760	61.4		56.8	117,024	119,132
Rye <sup>2/</sup>	Bu	34.0		38.0	340	342	27.3		24.4	6,971	6,985
Wheat, All <sup>2/</sup>	Bu	32.2		27.3	292,400	220,660	40.2		35.3	1,957,043	1,624,636
Winter <sup>2/</sup>	Bu	40.0		38.0	3,200	2,660	43.5		38.5	1,361,479	1,142,802
Durum <sup>2/</sup>	Bu	26.0		25.0	54,600	50,000	30.0		29.1	83,556	80,245
Other Spring <sup>2/</sup>	Bu	34.0		28.0	234,600	168,000	35.2		29.5	512,008	401,589
Canola	Lbs	1,400		1,150	1,799,000	1,437,500	1,374		1,151	1,998,515	1,585,925
Flaxseed	Bu	20.0			10,900		19.8			11,455	
Mustard Seed	Lbs						930			41,106	
Rapeseed	Lbs						1,306			4,050	
Safflower	Lbs						1,365			241,665	
Soybeans <sup>4/</sup>	Bu	33.5	35.0	33.0	70,685	79,200	39.6	37.0	37.0	2,890,682	2,653,798
Sunflower, All <sup>4/</sup>	Lbs	1,403		1,250	1,473,300	1,575,000	1,338		1,118	3,418,759	2,592,753
Oil <sup>4/</sup>	Lbs	1,440			1,202,400		1,361			2,803,704	
Non-oil <sup>4/</sup>	Lbs	1,260			270,900		1,243			615,055	
Sugarbeets	Tons	18.1	18.5	18.5	4,290	5,254	20.7	20.8	20.9	25,787	28,619
Dry Edible Beans, All <sup>3/ 5/</sup>	Cwt	1,550	1,450	1,400	6,200	9,100	1,572	1,609	1,632	19,541	27,594
Dry Edible Peas <sup>5/</sup>	Cwt	2,020			1,737		1,920			3,779	
Lentils <sup>5/</sup>	Cwt	1,370			603		1,471			2,898	
Fall Potatoes, All	Cwt	240			26,400		367			393,750	

<sup>1/</sup> Data are latest estimates available. Data not shown will be released at a later date. <sup>2/</sup> Estimates carried forward from September Small Grains 2002 Summary. <sup>3/</sup> No forecast made September 1, estimates carried forward from August 1. <sup>4/</sup> 2001 data reflects revisions for soybeans and sunflower. <sup>5/</sup> Yield in pounds.

## MILK PRODUCTION

### MILK PRODUCTION JULY - SEPTEMBER QUARTER

STATE	MILK COWS <sup>1/</sup>		MILK PRODUCTION <sup>2/</sup>		
	2001	2002	2001	2002	Change from 2001
	-- 1,000 Head --		-- Million Pounds --		(%)
<b>North Dakota</b>	46	39	166	145	-12.7
California	1,598	1,651	8,349	8,842	5.9
Minnesota	507	483	2,093	2,003	-4.3
New York	673	677	2,981	3,068	2.9
Wisconsin	1,284	1,266	5,464	5,514	0.9
United States	9,098	9,159	40,570	41,965	3.4

<sup>1/</sup> Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. <sup>2/</sup> Excludes milk sucked by calves.

### North Dakota

Milk production for the July-September quarter was estimated at 145 million pounds, down 13 percent from the same period last year. Milk cows, at 39,000 head, decreased 7,000 head from the same period last year. Milk produced per cow during the July-September quarter was 3,730 pounds, up from 3,600 pounds a year earlier but down from 3,800 pounds during the April-June quarter.

### United States

The quarterly production of milk for the United States was 42.0 billion pounds, 3.4 percent above the July-September period last year. The average number of milk cows in the United States during the quarter was 9.16 million head, 61,000 head more than the same period last year.

## U.S. DAIRY HERD STRUCTURE

The makeup of the U.S. dairy herd by size of operation and location has changed significantly over the past five years. A brief summary of the changes in herd structure is outlined below. This information is being provided to the dairy industry and data users by the National Agricultural Statistics Service as an aid in understanding the structural changes that have occurred.

The overall number of milk cow operations continues to decline in the United States. There were 123,700 milk cow operations in the U.S. in 1997 compared to 97,560 in 2001, a decline of 21 percent. During this same period, milk cow inventory declined from 9.25 million head in 1997 to 9.12 million head in 2001. Despite the decrease in milk cow operations and inventory, milk production increased 6 percent, from 156,091 million pounds in 1997 to 165,336 million pounds in 2001, as large operations increased their share of production.

Operations with more than 500 head accounted for 39 percent of all milk produced in 2001, up from 29 percent in 1997 (the first year of data for operations with more than 500 head). Conversely, operations with less than 500 head accounted for 61 percent of total production in 2001 compared to 71 percent in 1997.

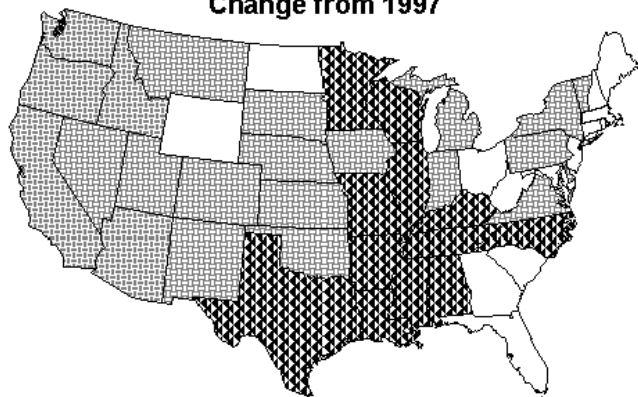
Geographically, milk production continues to migrate to the western States, primarily from the southeastern and midwestern States. Comparing pounds of milk produced in 2001 to 1997, States showing the largest increases were California, Idaho and New Mexico. The only western State that did not show an increase was Wyoming. The largest declines occurred in Texas, Missouri and Minnesota.

The shift in production is mainly attributed to a shift in milk cow inventory. For example, California's milk production totaled 33,251 million pounds in 2001, up 21 percent from 1997. The number of milk cows increased 14 percent, while the average rate per cow increased only 5 percent during the same period. The States showing the largest increase in milk cow inventory between 1997 and 2001 were California, Idaho and New Mexico while the largest inventory losses were recorded in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Texas and Missouri. Western States that did not show an inventory increase were Montana, Nevada, Washington and Wyoming. Indiana, Kansas and Nebraska were the only non western States to show an increase in milk cows from 1997.

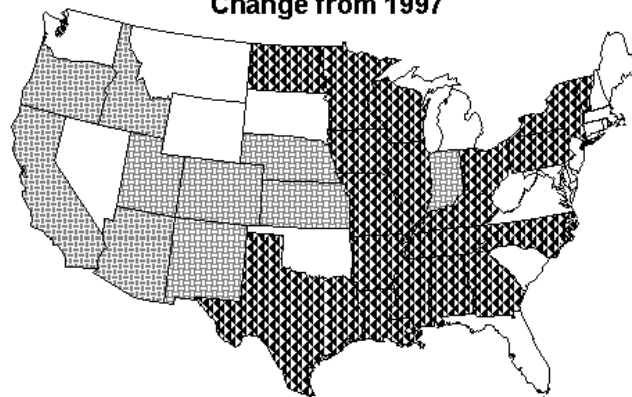
In conclusion, the number of small operations continues to decline while the larger, more efficient operations continue to increase their share of milk cow inventory and milk production. Even though operations with more than 500 head accounted for only 3 percent of the milk cow operations during 2001, they accounted for nearly 40 percent of total U.S. production. This is up from 1997 when the 500 plus head operations accounted for 2 percent of the operations and only 29 percent of total production. Furthermore, milk cow inventory and milk production are shifting to the western half of the United States. Specifically, in the last five years there has been substantial increases in both total milk production and milk cow inventories in California, Idaho and New Mexico.

**Note:** This special release is only available on the NASS website at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

**2001 Milk Production  
Change from 1997**



**2001 Milk Cow Inventory  
Change from 1997**



WHEAT OUTLOOK

Overview

Projected 2002/03 ending stocks of wheat are down 36 million bushels from last month as reduced production more than offsets smaller use. Projected ending stocks, at 371 million bushels, are 406 million bushels below the revised carryin level and the lowest since 1973/74's 340 million bushels. Estimated production published in the September 30 *Small Grains 2002 Summary* is down 62 million bushels from the previous forecast. Spring wheat (including durum) is down 46 million bushels, largely because of lower harvested area. Winter wheat is 16 million bushels below the previous forecast due to lower area and yield. Projected feed and residual use is reduced 25 million bushels because the September 1 stocks implied smaller-than-expected use in the June-August quarter. The projected price range is narrowed 10 cents on each end to \$3.55 to \$3.95 per bushel.

World wheat ending stocks in 2002/03 are projected to reach the lowest since 1982/83. Wheat supplies available for export from the major foreign exporters were reduced again this month with a decline in the export forecast for Australia from 10 million tons forecast in September to 8 million. India, an exporter of white wheat to Asian markets, is expected to boost exports, up 1 million tons this month. Although stocks forecasts for India were reduced this month, government stocks remain burdensome. Russia and the EU are expected to increase exports to Australia's traditional customers in the Middle East and North Africa.

Other Spring Wheat Production Is Down

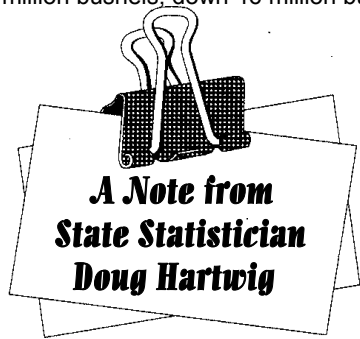
Other spring wheat production in 2002 is estimated at 402 million bushels, down 46 million bushels from the last forecast

and 110 million bushels below 2001. Harvested area is 13.6 million acres; 1.6 million acres lower than the previous forecast, primarily due to drought-induced abandonment in the Dakotas. North Dakota and South Dakota accounted for 1.35 million of the 1.56 million-acre reduction in harvested acres since the August forecast. The U.S. yield is 29.5 bushels per acre, unchanged from the last forecast, but 5.7 bushels below last season.

HRS production totals 364 million bushels, down 112 million bushels from last year. The October 8 *Weekly Harvest Report* indicates that the protein percentage for this year's HRS crop is 15.1, higher than the 2001 and 2000 percentages of 14.5 and 14.4, respectively. The test weight for this year's HRS crop is 59.0 pounds per bushel, lower than 59.9 and 60.4 for the 2001 and 2000 crops, respectively. 2001 HRS falling number is 339 seconds, lower than the 2001 and 2000 crop's 391 and 379, respectively.

Durum production for 2002 totaled 80.2 million bushels, up 0.7 million bushels from August, but 3 million bushels less than last year. Harvested area totals 2.76 million acres, up 66,000 acres from the August forecast but 31,000 below a year ago. The U.S. yield is estimated at 29.1 bushels per acre, down 0.4 bushel from the last forecast and 0.9 bushel per acre below 2001. The October 8 *Weekly Harvest Report* indicates that the protein percentage for this year's durum crop is 14.4, compared with 14.4 and 14.3 for the 2001 and 2000 crops, respectively. Test weight for this year's durum crop is 59.6 pounds per bushel, higher than the 58.8 for each of the two previous years. This year's falling number is averaging 343 seconds to date, compared with the 2001 and 2000 averages of 355 and 216, respectively.

Source: Wheat Outlook, USDA-ERS, October 16, 2002



Just as producers are wrapping up another busy season, it is time for us to start thinking about the 2002 county numbers. For the data, a large cross section of North Dakota producers will be contacted during November. Contacts will be by mail or phone. "Response is very important" to set the best possible county level estimates.

County estimates are available by commodity and all are included in the North Dakota Agricultural Statistics book, which is published annually in June. We thank you for giving of your valuable time to supply this information.

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